

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system capable of communicating with plural devices on one or more
2 networks, comprising:

3 a storage module to store address translation information; and
4 a controller adapted to receive a data unit from a first network, the data
5 unit having a source address and a destination address,

6 the controller adapted to further translate both the source address and the
7 destination address of the data unit based on the address translation information.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the network address translation
2 information contains a first address associated with a first device and a second address
3 associated with a second device, the address translation information to map the first
4 address to a first alias address and to map the second address to a second alias address.

1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to further
2 transmit the data unit containing the translated source address and destination address to
3 the first network or another network.

1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the address translation information
2 comprises an address and port translation table, and wherein the controller is adapted to
3 further translate a source port and a destination port in the data unit.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the data unit comprises an Internet
2 Protocol header and a User Datagram Protocol header.

1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein the data unit contains Real-Time Protocol
2 data.

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1 7. The system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a media portal
2 adapted to communicate data units containing media data between plural devices, the

3 system further comprising an agent adapted to perform call control signaling to establish
4 a call session in which the data units are communicated.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the agent is adapted to communicate
2 requests to the controller to dynamically create and update the address translation
3 information in a call session.

1 9. The system of claim 1, wherein the data unit comprises a data unit to be
2 communicated between at least two devices in a call session.

1 10. A method of communicating between two endpoints, comprising:
2 in a communications portal, providing a first interface to a first device and
3 providing a second interface to a second device;
4 transporting data units, through the communications portal, between the
5 first device and the second device; and
6 the communications portal hiding an address of the first device from the
7 second device and hiding an address of the second device from the first device.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 storing address translation information; and
3 translating both a source address and a destination address of each data
4 unit.

1 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
2 storing port translation information; and
3 translating both a source port and a destination port of each data unit.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein translating the source and destination
2 addresses and ports comprises translating Internet Protocol addresses and User Datagram
3 Protocol ports.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein storing the address translation
2 information comprises storing a first device address associated with the first device and a

3 second device address associated with the second device, and storing a first alias address
4 mapped to the first device address and a second alias address mapped to the second
5 device address.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein providing the first interface comprises
2 providing the second alias address to represent the second device to the first device, and
3 providing the second interface comprises providing the first alias address to represent the
4 first device to the second device.

1 16. An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions
2 that when executed cause a system to:

3 store address translation information;
4 receive a data unit containing a source address and a destination address;
5 and
6 translate both the source and destination addresses based on the address
7 translation table.

1 17. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to further store the address translation information as an entry in an address
3 translation table having plural entries.

1 18. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to use different entries of the address translation table for different
3 communications sessions.

1 19. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to transmit the data unit with the translated source and destination addresses.

1 20. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to communicate the data unit that is part of a call session between two endpoints.

1 21. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to further store port translation information, and to translate both the source and
3 destination port of the data unit based on the port translation information.

1 22. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to receive the data unit comprising an Internet Protocol packet.

1 23. The article of claim 16, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to further:

3 allocate an address for a call session, the address being part of the address
4 translation information; and

5 deallocate the address in response to termination of the call session.

1 24. The article of claim 23, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to further use the deallocated address for another call session as needed.

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